

# Records of Fort St George

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## FRENCH CORRESPONDENCE

[PUBLIC SUNDRIES No 8 (b)]

1751



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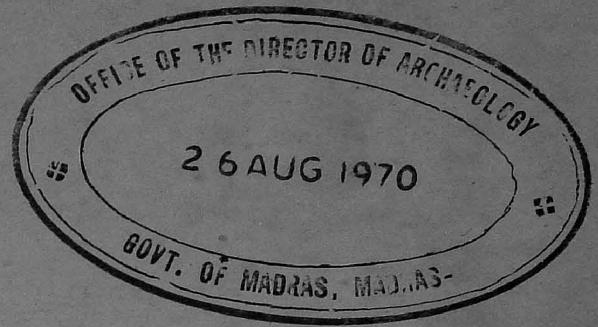
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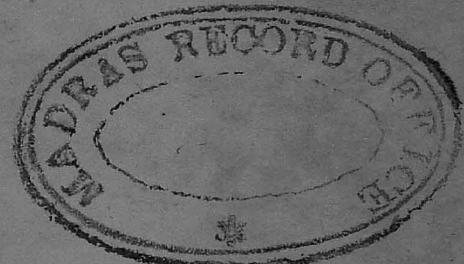
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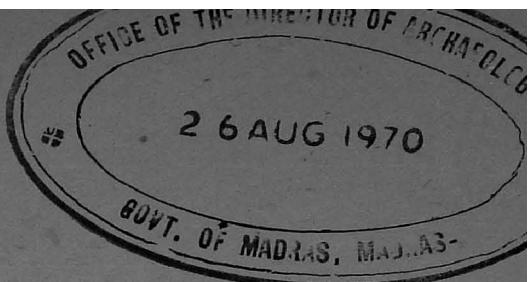
## P R E F A C E .

THE following pages contain the correspondence which passed in 1751 between the French Council at Pondicherry and the English Council at Fort St. David, then the head-quarters of the English on the Coast. The original volume contains transcripts of the French letters together with translations. The translations only have been printed here. In one case (No. 1 on page 10) no translation was entered; I have therefore made good the deficiency.

The volume is in a fair state of preservation, though the paper is brittle.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE,  
16th April 1914.

H. DODWELL,  
*Curator.*



# RECORDS OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

## FRENCH CORRESPONDENCE

OF

1751.

[PUBLIC SUNDY BOOK No. 8 (b).]

No. 1.

M<sup>r</sup>. SAUNDERS GOVERNOUR AND  
THE GENTLEMEN OF COUNCIL AT  
FORT S<sup>t</sup>. DAVID.

SIR & SIRS

We present you herewith Copies of two Letters that have fallen into our Hands, One from Mr. Rob<sup>t</sup>. Goodere Chief of your Factory at Ingeram to the Phousdar of Rajahmundry Mirmahmet Ou la Cawn and the other from Mr. Dalton a Captain of your Garrison to Mr. Kane an Ensign of ours. The first of these Letters is an Evident Proof to whom we are indebted for the Ruin of our Factory at Yanam, and the other as evident a Confirmation that the most sacred Treaties and the Intention of our respective Sovereigns are not enough to curb that Passion which guides the Actions of the Subjects of his Britannick Majesty. They are both wrote in disrespectful Terms, such as are not befitting from your Nation to ours, especially Subjects of so little Consequence as those that wrote & signed these Letters. We have underlin'd the select Expressions in order that they may fall more readily under your Eyes; and on our Part, without a more ample Dissertation on the Terms or Subject of which they Treat, We summons you Gentlemen in the name of his Britannick Majesty and our Monarch to order these Gentlemen to transport themselves to Europe by the first Opportunity that they may take Passage upon your Ships to give an Account of their Cunduct [sic] to our respective Sovereigns. If you fail Gentlemen to Conform to our Request which is Just and reasonable, you will be answerable to these same Sovereigns for your behaviour in so nice a Matter which is equally opponent to the Authority of our two Sovereigns. Protesting henceforward against you Gentlemen and putting to your account the unhappy Consequences which will be the result of such Refusall and of the Cunduct [sic] which has been & still is observed with Regard to us

We are with Respect  
Gentlemen

Your most Obedient Humble Servant's [sic]

DUPLEX.—DE S<sup>t</sup>. PAUL.—BARTHELEMY.—FRIELL.—BOYELLEAU.—DELARCHE.

Pondicherry  
23 January 1751

Translate of a Letter from Mr. Robert Goodere, English Chief of the Factory of Ingeram to Mirmamet Oula Cawn Subidar of Rajahmundry.

## After the Compliments.

I have receiv'd by your Hicaras [sic] the Letter you did me the Honour to write me by which you give me to understand that you have receiv'd orders from Nabob Nazar Sing to make yourself Master of all the Factories of the *Unhappy French* his Enemies; I must tell you that I also have receiv'd a Perwan on the Part of Nazar Sing by which he Commands me to join with you in this Work, observing to me that you ought to move down into these Parts. He recommends it to me to consult with you and, in Consequence of our Resolutions, to seize upon the Factories of these unfortunate People; *being in the Intention to follow the orders he has given me, I wait your Pleasure* and beg you will please to give yourself the trouble of Coming to my Factory en passant where when you are arriv'd we will hold Council together on this Affair which is not so easy as to be treated on paper possibly, Your Presence is necessary. Your Hircaras having acquainted me Yesterday that you would be somitime [sic] to day in the Carbé of Ingeram, is the Reason that I did not send you an Answer. I must acquaint you then that the longer you stay the stronger they will make themselves.

I certify that this is a True Translate from the Persian into French at Pondicherry the 23<sup>d</sup> January 1751.

DELARCHE.

English Translate of a Persia Copy of a Letter from M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere to Meer Saib no Date receiv'd from Pondicherry.

I had the Honour to receive a pervana under the Head Man's Seal by the Circar's Hircars, I observe that you are come to these Parts in Obedience to an order to seize upon the wicked Factor. I found the same Order to me in the Pervana from his Excellency acquainting me of your Intention to these Parts to seize upon the said Factor and Directing me at the same time to consult together with you and Dispatch that Affair as soon as possible: please to observe since the Receipt of the said Pervana, I have been in expectation of Your Coming and therefore desire you'll step as far as my Factory that I may do my Self the Honour of seeing you & consult with you about this Affair: this is not an Affair of a trifling Nature and therefore it can't be concluded by intercourse of Letters. Yesterday the Hircar inform'd me that you'll come to the Town so as to make your Evening Prayer there, which is the Reason I did not Write a Letter to you. The longer you Delay in this Affair, the more He meaning the factor will gather Strength.

COPY of the English Letter to M<sup>r</sup>. Kane.M<sup>r</sup> KANE.

You do me but Justice in saying I was always your Freind, You might have Continued me so even after the sad step you took in deserting to the French, had you but wrote to me from Pondicherry after I return'd from Bengal I would have done all in my Power with the Governoour to have got you restor'd to your former Station. But your Request now (*since the French and we are at little better than an open Rupture*) is of such a Nature that I am certain I should Incur his Displeasure, was I to make him any such Proposal. However Kane to show you how much I esteem a Brave-Fellow, I'll make you a proposal which if you'll calmly reflect on I dare say you'll think worthy of some notice. *Leave that vile Service you are engag'd in, and return to your Colours with all the Englishmen that are under your Command* do this and I Promise you on the Word of a *Man of Honour* I'll use my Interrest [sic] with the Governor to get you the same Rank you have now at Pondicherry, and I Can venture to assure you I Can succeed, for we have Vacancy's at present I am sure you have Resolution enough to go through with this Particularly when you reflect what an Honour it will be to you after the little Disgraces you have fallen into in this Country to do your nation a signal Service and be made an Officier [sic] in the Service of your Country which surely you can't have so much forgot as to be easy in your mind while *you Serve the natural Enemies of it*. Let me know immediately if you resolve to take my Advice, and I'll Sneak

to the Governor to give you an Assurance of a Commission before you leave Pondicherry.

Surely you'll leap at this Proposal if you are in your Senses consider that you have it in your Power to make me y<sup>r</sup>. Friend and Servant

J. DALTON.

Fort St. David.

3rd of January

Your Friend Trusler who was Serjeant of Grenad<sup>rs</sup>. is made an Ens<sup>n</sup>. and march'd out on Detachments.

No. 2.

To M<sup>r</sup>. DUPLEX

GOVERNOUR AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE  
SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF PONDICHERRY.

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd yours of the 23<sup>d</sup>. Inst<sup>r</sup>. complaining of two Letters one of them said to be written by Mr. Goodyer our Cheif at Ingeram to the Phousdar of Rajahmundry and the other by Capt<sup>r</sup>. Dalton commanding a Company here to one Keene a Deserter from our Service.

As to the first of these, the Translation, for we do not understand the Original, is so Contrary to the Orders he has receiv'd from Us, and to the Advices we have had from him that we cannot but beleive it to be fictitious and Contriv'd by some of the Natives to impose on you; especially too as it is not signed an Omission which is irreconciliable [sic] with our Practice upon these Occasions. However we promise you to enquire into the reality of the Charge and if Mr. Goodyer has been so unmindful of our repeated Instructions as to have misbehav'd in the Manner you represent you may be Assured that we shall Consider ourselves as equally offended with you.

As to the Letter said to be written to Keene by Cap<sup>r</sup>. Dalton We must observe that the endeavouring to reclaim a Deserter is not esteemed either an illegal or a dishonest Practice and with Regard to Keene we doubt not but you will agree that your Service in which he cou'd neither Continue nor engage without the Guilt of Perjury must be to him a very Criminal Employ and this a Person well acquainted with our Language must allow to be the Natural Interpretation of that Phrase *Vile Service* which you have particularly excepted to. Captain Dalton's Supposition that you and we are at little better than an Open Rupture is no way's countenanc'd by us; For we have endeavour'd to consider Pondicherry not as an independant State: but as a Place in Subjection to his Most Christian majesty & consequently as bound by the Solemn Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns of Great Britain and France But tho' these are our Sentiments and our Conduct has been ever agreeable thereto, yet it is not Strange that those who Judge by Appearances only should imagine that Pondicherry was a place govern'd by its own Laws, and on that Supposition it is natural to imagine that a Rupture on your part was not far distant Especially when it is known that Muzerpher Jung a person whom you, to mention no other Circumstances, have furnish'd with a large body of Troops has, whilst he was within your Territories demanded us to deliver up all your Possessions on this Coast: After this Behaviour of a man who is indeeded [sic] to you for his past Successes and his future hopes and who was generally beleiv'd to be under the Influence of your Councils at the time he made that demand, it can surely be no Crime to suspect that the most sacred Treaties between our respective Monarchs may prove no Obstacle to your Views against the Interests and Possessions of the English in these parts, However as in that Case we shall not be wanting to ourselves, we doubt not but our Conduct will be approv'd in Europe by both nations. For as we shall never put it in the Power of our Enemies

to charge us with Perfidy, Cruelty, Ambition, or endeavouring to render ourselves independent of our Mother Country, We cannot but beleive that the Equity of the French Nation for whom we have always had the greatest Regard will on Ocasions like these do us ample Justice.

We are with Respect

Gentlemen

Your most obedient Humble Servant's

Fort St. David.

18th January 1750-51. T. S.—R. S.—C. B.—H. P.—G. P.—F. W.—A. W.

No. 3.

To M<sup>r</sup>. SAUNDERS GOVERNOUR  
AND THE GENTLEMEN OF COUNCIL  
AT FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir and Sirs,

We are to answer the Letter you did us the Honour to write us the 18<sup>th</sup> January O.S. The Persian one of which we sent you a Copy is neither forg'd nor Suppos'd; M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere has sign'd it at length and you have it in your Power to satisfy yourselves, Gentlemen by sending a person on Your Part to look at it. The translation is true the People that write your Letters in persian may give you an Explanation and assure you of the justness of our translation. Further, the Custom of signing this sort of Letters is not as you are pleas'd to say exactly kept up to amongst you we have a great many of M<sup>r</sup>. Floyer's and Major Lawrence's where this Formality is not observ'd and where they have been contented with putting their seals in Persians upon the Cover, so this doubt which you thought to make use of to lessen the Reality of this Letter falls of itself upon the sight of others but as you was wishing, This is sign'd, therefore the Fact is true and cannot bear any other Interpretations than that which appears in it.

The Interpretation you give to M<sup>r</sup>. Daltons Letter will appear extraordinary to all those that see it and we are Persuaded that the Efforts you make as well to diminish the Force of the Expressions and Facts as to give them a Different Sense from what they naturally bear will be equally ineffectual before your Superiours and ours, and they will know how to Punish in a Proper Manner all that fall into such Errors. They will Likewise be able to distinguish the Truth of all that has happen'd for more than a Year past and whether you, Gentlemen, or we have really stray'd from that Dependance which we owe to our Sovereigns, and to the Treaties that they have thought Proper to make together. All Depends upon Facts; they are Clear, and will be produced.

During the stay that Mustapha Jung made here none but pacific Notions were inspired into him and he made use of them to all those that had the same sentiments.

We are absolutely ignorant of the Contents of the Letter he wrote you, and where he was when he sent it you, You will nevertheless give us leave to doubt of the Extent you give it. We are acquainted with his sentiments which are full of Equity and tend only to give Peace to all the People that Providence and the orders of his King have put under his Dominion.

We shall avoid answering the End of your Letter of which we do not altogether comprehend the Sense nor to what Purpose you make use of Terms which must Convince us of the Custom You have establish'd not to make any Account of us. May not also the end of this Letter serve for a Demonstration of the Choice Terms we complain'd of in the two we sent you? In short is it possible for us to err in our Conduct when we have always before us that which your Predecessors have observ'd with us to serve for a Guide, You have too much Judgement

not to perceive the Force of this Truth and we Could heartily wish we had not so much Power as we have ; but that very Equity which you are pleas'd to praise in our Nation will keep us within just Bounds and we shall leave it to our respective Masters to decide whether your predecessors or we have fail'd in their Dependence. We shall assuredly at all Times take a great Delight in shewing you that our Sentiments of Consideration for your nation and for you Gentlemen in particular have receiv'd no Alterations and that we shall eagerly seize upon all Opportunities of giving you indisputable Marks of it as well as of the Respect with which we are

Pondicherry  
the 2<sup>d</sup> February 1751.

Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient humble Servant's  
DUPLEIX—DE S<sup>T</sup>. PAUL—BARTHELEMY—FRIELL—DELARCHE, COLLE.

No. 4.

To M<sup>R</sup>. DUPLEX GOVERNOR AND THE  
GENTLEMEN OF THE SUPERIOR  
COUNCIL OF PONDICHERRY.

Gentlemen,

We have receiv'd your's of the 2<sup>d</sup> February N.S. in reply to ours of the 18<sup>th</sup> January O.S. in which you insist on the reality of the Persian Letter imputed to M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere We have already assur'd you that though we have very good Reasons to doubt the Authenticity of that Letter yet we would make the necessary enquiries upon that head & would not fail to give you all Possible Satisfaction if it should appear that M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere had so far Departed from his Duty as to write in the Manner set forth by your Translation. One of our Reasons for disbelieving it to be written by M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere was, that by the Copy it appeared not to be sign'd. But you now tell us the Original is sign'd and that the Practice of signing is not universally follow'd by us for that you have many Persians Letters of M<sup>r</sup>. Floyer's and Major Lawrences which is not sign'd, We do not know that those Gentlemen ever wrote to you, Gentlemen, in Persian and it is not wonderful, that amongst the Natives (whose Manners and Artifices we need not recount to you) many fictitious Letters should be produced during the late extraordinary Situations of Affairs. Indeed these Letters of Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Floyer and Lawrence give us still farther Reasons for disbelieving That imputed to M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere, for we must again affirm that to the best of our Knowledge, all Letters at any time written by our Chiefs at the Northern Settlements, to the Country Government are sign'd ; However we repeat our Assurances to you that we will make a Strict enquiry into this Matter, and we hope to Proceed therein with so much Sincerity that you will be satisfied with the Result of it.

With Regard to Captain Dalton's Letter you accuse us of giving it a Turn different from its natural meaning. That we give to it a Meaning different from your Interpretation is certain But as we hold ourselves Competent Judges of the Customary Usage of our own Language We cannot but insist that the innocent Sence in which we understand that Letter is much more natural and unconstrain'd than the Offensive Construction which you have imputed to it.

You appeal to your and our Superiors in Europe and to the Transactions of more than a Year past for the Deciding whether you, Gentlemen, or we have most departed from the Dependence on their respective Sovereigns and the solemn Treaties between the two Crowns. In this Appeal Gentlemen we most sincerely join, and agree that the Facts speak for themselves, Facts too of so extraordinary a kind that not only our Kings but the meaneast [sic] of our respective Countrymen

will soon be acquainted with them ; and will not by all our Arts be prevented from reasoning about them.

You are pleas'd highly to extol on your own Knowledge the Equity and Pacific Sentiments of Mustopher Jung. We never question'd, Gentlemen, but you were well apprized of his Temper and Views and of all that Providence (as you are please'd to express it) has done for him. We did indeed observe an Ambiguity in the Letter he wrote to us demanding the Delivery up of our Settlements ; and we now find Gentlemen, that though you did not know anything of that Letter, yet you doubt if we had rightly Comprehend [*sic*] its Meaning.

We are surpriz'd that our Protestations of our own Innocency in the last Paragraph of our Letter should have given you so much Offence as we learn by yours it has done. You are sensible, Gentlemen, that the extraordinary Transactions upon this Coast will furnish much Matter for Speculations in Europe and as the first Conjecture upon these Occasions is not the most favourable it surely Can be no Crime in us to disavow all those Criminal Motives of Action which are most usually imputed to the Governors of European Settlements particularly that of setting up for ourselves which since the Example of the Spaniards on the Coast of Carracas seems to be the most apprehended by European Politicans. Indeed notwithstanding your Frequent Complaints of the little Regard paid by us to the Treaties between the two nations Your censuring as unnecessary our Disavowal [*sic*] of these Views of Independency seems to be a Declaration on your side, that Deviations of that nature were what we were not even suspected to be guilty of. This is the only Interpretation which we Can put on the last Part of your Letter. Although even here your Complaining that in this Exculpation of our selves we have had no deference for you renders it Difficult to determine with Certainty what Circumstance in our last has been so particularly unpleasing.

We are

Gentlemen

Your most obedient & most Humble Servant's

Fort S<sup>t</sup>. David  
4<sup>th</sup> February 1750/51

THOMAS SAUNDERS.  
&c<sup>a</sup> & Council.

### No. 5.

Pondicherry the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1751.

To M<sup>r</sup>. SAUNDERS  
GOVERNOR OF FORT S<sup>t</sup>. DAVID AND  
THE GENTLEMEN OF COUNCIL.

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd the Letter you did us the Honour to write us the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant O.S. all the Doubts on your part of Mr. Goodere's Letter may be remov'd in an Instant by sending as we have had the Honour to propose before, a Person or two to look into the Signing of your Resident. This Inspection, which we are ready to make when you please, would have prov'd the Certainty of the Fact we advance

We are with Respect

Gentlemen

Your most obedient humble Servant's

DUPLEX—DE S<sup>t</sup>. PAUL—A. BOYELLEAU—BARTHELEMY—BAUSSET—DE BRAIN.  
ANGELAUTVELAVAL—DELARCHE.

No. 6.

To M<sup>r</sup>. DUPLEX GOVERNOR AND  
THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SUPERIOR  
COUNCIL OF PONDICHERY.

Gentlemen

We have the Honour of your last letter of the 23 Inst. N. S. in answer to which we think it unnecessary to say further at present than what we acquainted you with in our last; But have now to address you on Matters of a different nature that have occasion'd us much Surprize after such frequent Professions from you of your strict Adherence to the Treaties subsisting between our seperate [sic] Nations, Whereof they are no less than an Absolute Violation, and we should think our selves greatly wanting in our Duty to our Employers were we to be backward in shewing a Proper Resentment. The taking down or causing to be taken down our Colours hoisted at Cumbuconum in the Tanjore Country being an Insult offer'd to our Sovereign, claims the first Place in our Complaint. The next is your Possessing yourselves of the Factory belonging to our Company at Metchlepatam, which you surely Cannot be unacquainted is their Property as it is well known their first Settlement in India was at that Place, and that they kept a Resident there 'till of late Years. Neither can you be ignorant, Gentlemen, of our undoubted Title to Navigate in the River of Narispore by Virtue of our Factory at Maddapollam. Though it might be imagined you were from the Declarations that have been made by your People and by your Orders of the sole Right of it being invested in your selves; A Convincing Argument how lightly you look upon Engagements the most solemn when it suits your conveniency to break through them.

Another affront too notorius to be passed over in Silence is your planting your Colours within Pistol shot of our out Works, as you Cannot be insensible it is contrary to the Customs of all Nations to hoist them even within Cannon Shot of any Fortification or the Borders of a Neibouring [sic] Province. For all which, Gentlemen as we are positive you can be no ways authorized by your Superiors. We therefore In the name of His Britannick Majesty and the Honourable United East India Company Protest against you in the fullest form possible making you answerable for the Evil Consequences that must necessarily accrue from Proceedings so unwarrantable and illegal.

We are with Respect

Gentlemen

Fort S<sup>t</sup>. David  
22<sup>d</sup>. February 1750/51.

Your most obedient humble servants

THOMAS SAUNDERS—RICHARD STARK—CHARLES BODDAM—HENRY POWNEY—  
GEORGE PIGOT—FOSS WESTCOTT—ALEXANDER WYNCH.

No. 7.

M<sup>r</sup>. SAUNDERS GOVERNOUR AND  
THE GENTLEMEN OF COUNCIL AT  
FORT S<sup>t</sup>. DAVID.

Pondicherry the 14<sup>th</sup>. March 1751.

Sir & Sirs

We are to answer the Letter you did us the Honour to write us the 22<sup>d</sup>. February O. S. The matters you treat of are, you say, of a Different nature from that of M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere's Letter, of which it appears you did not Care to be too well convinc'd by the sight which we offer'd you of it; This may serve for a Proof in

time, and Place, that this Cheif only acted in Consequence of Orders he had receiv'd, and if he still remains in your Service, the Proof will be entire. We are going with a great deal of Ease to disprove the absolute Infringements of which you are pleas'd to accuse us.

Your first Complaint is about one of your Flags hoisted on a Pagado [sic] at Combakonum, which we took down or caus'd to be taken down.

The Paper N° 1 of which M<sup>r</sup> Cope acknowledges the Receipt by that N° 2 was more than sufficient to prevent the Officers of the Detachments you have sent to Tanjour & Trichinopoly; The paper N° 1 is dated the 8<sup>th</sup>. January; Whether that suspended the Operations of your Detachments, or not who were hoisting Flags at all Places through which they pass'd, it is Certain that at Combakonom was not planted there till the 8<sup>th</sup>. or 9<sup>th</sup>. of February, a Month after the notice of M<sup>r</sup>. Le Riche, and at a Time when your Detachments were not upon the Spot, but in the Town of Tanjour and about Trichinopoly, and almost at the Instant our Detachment arriv'd at Combakonum. The Paper N° 3 discovers the Reasons which engaged your Officers at Tanjour, to give your Colours to whoever wanted them: So this Officer offended by an absolute Infringement the Treaties subsisting between the two nations, and if he acted of his own pure will, as there is some appearance, he is liable to be punish'd for having made Use of his Britannick Majesty's Flag, with a Design to deprive us of what was due to us from the King of Tanjour. We can say very assuredly, that such are not the Intentions of your Sovereign, and that he will deal severely with such as abuse so respectable a Flag, by employing it to give Offence to an Ally, and to support a Court of which the Infidelity is known to you as well as us: We have good Grounds to believe this Officer did act of his own Will from the several Advices we have receiv'd & from the Time you took to determine to make the Complaint of which we are now Speaking, for this Flag was planted, as we have already had the Honour to tell you the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> of February, and your Letter is dated the 5<sup>th</sup> Instant.

The Paper N° 4 will make you acquainted by whom, & in whose Name this Flag was hoisted. The name of Admiral of which they make use will appear as Singular to you as us and will at the same time shew you the Irregularity of him who with too much Freedom is lavish of your Flag. We could add some other Circumstances That have been told us at length, which would expose the Truth of this Conduct but shall be contented with sending you Copy of a Letter from M<sup>r</sup>. Pascal under N° 5 of which the Expressions & Declarations will no Doubt appear as extraordinary as inconsiderate, on the Part of this Subaltern Officer, who certainly abuses his Post, and Speak in terms, which are the utmost His Britannick Majesty would make use of in a Declaration of War. We look upon it as a great Piece of Good Fortune that the Officer who receiv'd it, had no body to interpret it to him, for without doubt his Answer would not have been more guarded.

Since the Agreement Concluded with the King of Tanjour and our Troops have retir'd from Combakonum, there has been no further Mention of your Flag from whence it is easy to infer with what Intention it was planted there, and that the Design of depriving us of the Clearance given us by that Court, was the only Point aim'd at, join'd with a little private Interrest of him who made so free a Use of it.

From all that we have had the Honour to say: it is prov'd by the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Pieces that you was not ignorant that we had a Right to Cumbakonum; the 3<sup>d</sup> brings to light the Reasons that engag'd your Officer to make no Acc<sup>t</sup>. of this Right. The 4<sup>th</sup> prouve [sic] by whom, in what Manner, and in whose name this Flag was hoisted, and who they were that took it down; From whence it is easy to Conclude, that the Protest you make on this Subject falls of itself, and on the Contrary you put it in our Power to renew that of M<sup>r</sup>. Le Riche which was of no more use than all the Rest that we have had so frequent Occasion to make, since it was not enough to stop your Officer.

When our Troops made themselves Masters of Mazlipatum, They puctually [sic] follow'd their Orders not to do the least Damage Pillage, or hurt to whomsoever was there: You must Gentlemen be persuaded that these Orders concern'd in a particular Manner the European Nations and all that belong'd to them, therefore, so far were we from having an Idea of taking Possession of your House, that we had none but of its Preservation so what you tell us on this Subject surpriz'd us really. Being no ways inform'd of the Circumstances that occasions your Complaint on this Subject, We have had recourse to the Informations of persons that are Come from thence; and the following is the Truth of what they have declar'd: That having at one time a great Number of sick, and the House where they were put not being big enough Mr. Guillard took your House on account of it being so near, that he had wrote, or was going to write to Mr. Goodere, that some bad Goods, as old Chest &c<sup>a</sup> were put into a Godown, of which the Key was given to the Peons you keep there; that the greatest part of the rest of the House being fallen to Ruin, Mr. Guillard caus'd the necessary Repairs to be made, as well to the Tops, as the walls of the Building which were not yet tumbled down, and of the Compound, that they clean'd it all out and after these Repairs put in the Sick; That this work was done, while the Moors were besieging it, and that, far from having done any Damage to the Ruins of this House, which has been abandon'd for many years, they had put [it] in a Condition to make a long Resistance, We are going immediately to write to the Commanding Officer of the place, to return your House without Loss of Time, to the two Peons that were found there; and we shall order him to send us up an Account of the Expences we were at to put it in a Condition to do us the Service, that the Situation we were in oblig'd us to make of it; for without Doubt you are not ignorant that in a seige. The Besieg'd make use of every thing that lies convenient for them; It may be also said that your Complaint on this Subject, if you thought it well founded, should have been made many months' before your last Letter. We do not pretend in the least to deprive you of the Property of this House; although some Examples might authorize it but Gentlemen, 'till we have orders from our Superiours, This house will be your's. If Mr. Guillard had advertiz'd us of this Circumstance, we should not have fail'd to make you the Compliments due on the Subject. This brings to our Mind the unservicable Complaint that our Commander General made to Mr. Foyer on the Subject of the Ravages and Damages that Mr. Cope, returning from the Frontiers of Tanjour, occasion'd to our House at Porto Novo, by knocking down the walls of the Compound, to make Room for his Artillery and Baggage to enter, and not leaving a Window or Door but was either broke or carried away; Representations were to no purpose, and this House is still in the same Condition that your troops put it in; We were nevertheless at that time enjoying the Fruit of Peace, but that was not enough to engage Mr. Foyer to treat us on this Occasion as the most Common Decency requir'd.

We can give you no Answer concerning what has pass'd at Narsapour. We have had no Letters from Mazulipatum since the End of January; When we receive them we shall not fail to Communicate all that we may learn, and we are going to write to Mazulipatum to know the Truth of all that.

Your last Complaint has Room to surprize us. We find it a little backward, supposing there were Grounds for any. Our Flags were planted in all the Villages of Babour in November 1749; they were taken down, we know not too well by whom, in the Course of the next Year; when Peace was restor'd to these Countries, the flags were replac'd on those Lands: these are the Ordinary Marks made use of in this Country to distinguish what Masters they belong to. Yours are hoisted in three Villages called Alliaganattum, Nellatour, Mangadapatour which are entirely lock'd in by ours, we have nothing to say against it; and the same reasons that you give with regard to us, are equal Arguments against you. The Custom in Europe is to mark the Frontiers by Posts on the two sides of which are engrav'd the Arms of the two Sovereigns; They are only put up to prevent Disputes; the

Flags here answer the same end, and we can assure you that no Orders were given to plant them within Pistol Shot of your Limits, the orders were simply to place them on the Villages of our Dependence, without the least design to give you the Affront you think you find, on the sight of these Flags, which in Reality are only marks of our having taken Possession. Further, Whether these flags exist on these Lands or not, they will be nevertheless in our Dependence and we do not find that there is any established Custums [sic] for the nearness, or Distance of Flags. How many Examples we could bring you of this Nearness; and without going any further, d'ont we see the Dutch Flag flying in the middle of your Settlement, and almost at the Foot of Fort St David; we think it time to have done since we have had the Good Fortune to shake the Foundations on which you build your Protest you make at the End of your Letter. We hope that, in spight [sic] of your Attention to cross us on all Occasions, our Conduct will put us always out of the Reach of Reproaches & that we shall know always to prefer the Alliance of His Britannick Majesty to that of so despicable a Court as the King of Tanjour's. We are with Respect Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Humble Servants, DUPLEX—BARTHELEMY—BOYELLEAU—BAUSSET—DE BRAIN.

P.S.

After this Letter was wrote, Mr. Guillard arriv'd from Mazulipatum who assures us he wrote to your Chief at Ingeram, and receiv'd a polite answer, by which he was left at Liberty to make use of it on account of keeping it in Repair. Therefore we have great Reason to be surpriz'd at what you tell us on this Subject and are going to write to Mazulipatum to get this Letter which will Convince your Superiours of the truth of a Fact which you have endeavour'd to blacken.

No. 1. Copy of the Letter from M. Le Riche to Mr. Cope.

Dated Karikal January 8, 1751.

Sir,

I have the honour to advise you that I protest in the name of His Majesty the King of France against your occupation of the country of Kumbakonam, since it has already been mortgaged by the King of Tanjore for the moneys which he owes our nation, according to a deed in the hands of M. Dupleix, which we will produce at a suitable time and place. Protesting therefore in the name of His Majesty the King of France and of the company against all that you may do to the country,

I have the honour to be,  
Sir &c.

(Signed) LE RICHE.

No. 2. Copy of the Letter of Mr. Cope.

Dated Tanipat 29th December 1750.

Sir,

I am honour'd with your Letter of the 8<sup>th</sup>. Janu<sup>ry</sup>. and can only refer you to M<sup>r</sup>. Saunders who will give you in all probability [sic] a particular Answer; as to my self I am going into the Country so much further, that I am sure you will get much more speedy answers from Fort S<sup>t</sup>. Davids then from him who begs leave to subscribe himself with all imaginable respect to be

Sir

Your most Obedient and Most  
Devoted Servant

(Signed) JAMES COPE.

No. 3. Extract of a letter from Sawssy Nacquen Envoy from the Court of Tanjour to Mr. Le Riche, Commandant at Karical, wrote from Tanjour.

The Horsemen that we had promis'd to finish their Account as soon as we had done with you, having learnt that I was come back without Concluding any thing, began to trouble the Court for Payment. These Horsemen having contriv'd it with the English people that are there agreed that on Consideration of some Retribution from the Provinces of Mannarcoil and Combagonum which had been given them in Clearance of what was due to them for their pay, They wou'd give them Flags to hoist in the Different Villages of these two provinces which would hinder the French from Coming near them. Upon which the English gave them several and the Horsemen went themselves to hoist them & that it was Daoud Cawn who plac'd that at Combakonum, Contrary to the will of the King; all this Pass'd before I arriv'd at Tanjour.

No. 4. We Servants in the Pagoda of Vichenou, & Combavonum, Ramaingar, Tiromoulé Ayengar, Madava Pattaïs, Pandam Gopalen, Ranguen, Vengadavaddy Ayengar and Petta Proumapoulé Writer, have given this Declaration. Upon the Top of the Pagoda there was a Flag. We ask'd why it was put there, the People that were there answer'd us, that there Came fifteen Horsemen and three Hircaras on the Part of the King of Tanjour with a Letter from the King of Tanjour for the Subidar Ballogy Pendet, to hoist the Admiral's Flag upon the said Pagoda and as the Subidar was not there, they gave the Letter to the Chief of the Place Soubeené, who with the said fifteen Horsemen & three Hircaras Came himself & planted the Flag, and having demanded by whose order they hoisted it they answer'd by order of the King of Tanjour; That Day the french People that were at Tiroupuvanam having learnt this news Came about half past five a Clock at night to the Gate of the Pagoda where the Flag was hoisted and ask'd who put it there, We answer'd that some people Came from the King, & caused it to be planted; they then said, Why is this Flag here, You must take it down immediately, we then got up and pull'd the flag down. This is all that pass'd, there was nothing else, we are ready to attest it wherever you please, When the Admirals flag was plac'd there, there was only the King of Tanjour's people without any English or other's on their Part. Sign'd Anna Swaumy, Tiramoulé Ayengar, Maddava Pattel, Ranguen, Pandary and Vengadavaddy.

No. 5. Copy of the Letter of Mons<sup>r</sup> Edmund Pascal.

Sir

It is with the utmost Concern that I find the late Peace of Aix la Chapelles Concluded so happily between the Kings of both our nations, and which has been so matirially [sic] consequential towards forwarding the Schemes of Pondicherry, has been grossly [sic], and in a most flagrant manner, broke and Violated by the Troops of your nation several times but more particularly, by you in Marching into Combiconum and taking possession of it without paying that Due regard Incumbent on you to the Colours thereon flying and being accessory in the pulling them down and Insulting them, and when I Consider these Colours were the Colours of the British nation, I am under the greatest apprehension that it never will be in the Power of those from whom you receive your orders, nor yourself to support this behaviour when Called upon by your King, a thing Inevitable.

Therefore Sir, it behoves you to be very circumspect and now it only remains with me in the most solemn manner on behalf of his Majesty the king of Great brittan as also the Hoñble the English east India Company to protest against you as a Violater of that Peace by being privy and accessory to the pulling down and dishonouring the British Colours hoisted by my order, on the pagoda of Combiconum, which pagoda and Town of Combiconum I hereby summons

you to evacuate on the receipt hereof and deliver up possession Immediately to the detachment I now send, but in Case of your not Complying hereto but persist in keeping possession thereof, and refuse to draw of your troops from thence I hereby avow and Declare yourself and troops to be publick enemy's to the British nation and order this Protest to take place in the most solemn manner and to be of full Force & validity against you on behalf of my master the King of Great Britain and the Hoñble the East India Company.

Witness my Hand

Sign'd EDMUND PASCAL.

this 7<sup>th</sup>. day of february 1751.

Commander of the

English Troops of Tanjour.

### No. 8.

To M<sup>RE</sup>. DUPLEX GOVERNOUR  
& THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SUPERIOR  
COUNCIL OF PONDICHERRY.

Gentlemen

We have been honour'd with your Letter of Yesterday's date, and shall reply thereto in few Days.

Observing You have sent a Large force to Metchlepatam, and not knowing How Extensive your Intentions may be, We take the Liberty to acquaint you we have a Grant of a long Standing for Diu Island, And as we shall by no means give up our Right thereto, We now protest in the Name of His Britannick Majesty and that of the United English East India Company against you Mr. Dupleix and the Gentlemen of the Superior Council of Pondicherry, for any Measures You may pursue prejudicial to Our Interrest in the said Island. We are with perfect Esteem, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Humble Servant's, THOMAS SAUNDERS—RICHARD STARKE—CHARLES BODDAM—HENRY POWNEY—GEORGE PIGOT—ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Fort St. David  
the 6 of March 1750/1

### No. 9.

Pondicherry the 18 March 1751.

To M<sup>RE</sup>. SAUNDERS  
GOVERNOUR OF FORT ST. DAVID & THE  
GENTLEMEN OF COUNCIL.

Sir & Sirs

We are to answer the Letter you did us the Honour to write us yesterday, the Forces that we have at Mazulipatam are there to Support our Possessions, against all such as are inclin'd to molest us in them, and the Commander of them has orders to send off all such as do not appear there with pacifick Intentions, and to make use of his Forces to oblige them to it; and even to seize them, as well upon the Lands in the Dependence of Mazulipatam as upon those of the Island of Divy of which we took Possession the 16<sup>th</sup> February last. We have receiv'd and shall receive on this Subject all the Protests you may be pleas'd to make.

We are with Respect, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Humble Servant's DUPLEX—DE ST. PAUL—BARTHELEMY—GUILLARD—ANGLAULVELAVAL—DELARCHE—BOYELLEAU—BAUSSET—DE BRAIN.

No. 10.

To M<sup>r</sup>. DUPLEX GOVERNOUR & THE  
GENTLEMEN OF THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL  
OF PONDICHERY.

Gentlemen,

In reply to the Letter we had the Hon<sup>r</sup>. to receive from you under date the 14<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. Instant in answer to ours of the 22<sup>d</sup> Ultimo & 6<sup>th</sup>. Instant we must observe

That we think what we wrote You the 4<sup>th</sup>. Feby<sup>r</sup>. was a sufficient answer to Your Charge against M<sup>r</sup>. Robert Goodere: You are pleas'd to tell us that we may be Convinced of its validity by sending persons to see such Letter; you may have a paper in your hands sign'd possibly in the same manner as M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere usually signs, but so many Deceits of this Nature have happen'd of late Years, that we must have very Convincing proof before we give credit to them.

The translation of the paper You sent us is erronious & the meaning invirited [sic] to serve your own purpose; Is it any matter of Surprise that your Factory at Yanam should be attack'd by the Moors, when you (without reason or Justice, the Publick will Judge) were making war on them, And is it not notoriously known to you as well as to many of us, that the loss of Your Factory was entirely owing to your own ill Conduct; this may not appear so agreeable to you, and you may possibly be at a loss how to Clear the Affair up to your Superiours, from hence your endeavours to throw an Odium on us, or the Gentlemen that had the Management there, both without Reason, 'tis possibly owing to a very particular turn in Affairs, that you have not more Factory's to answer for, We repeat that we shall enquire into this Affair & if we find M<sup>r</sup>. Goodere has done anything contrary to that Union that ought to subsist between us severely Resent it.

In Your reply to what we wrote you of the indignity offered his Britannick Majesty's Colours at Combaconum You insinuate, that we were certainly convinced from paper N<sup>o</sup>. 1 Viz<sup>r</sup>. Monsieur Le Riche's Protest that you had a Right to that place, We assure you 'tis very far otherwise and we now call upon you to make it appear that you had any Title thereto, on the Contrary we can produce to you a Declaration from the King of Tanjour that he never made over that Country to you; as to those N<sup>o</sup>. 3, 4, 5 We are to acquaint you that a Treaty of Alliance has been Ratified between us and the King of Tanjour, who invested us with our Right to that Country, and on this foundation we planted our Colours, they were hoisted by our own people escorted by some Horse and that they were pulled down by order of your Officer, we have Sufficient proof; and we think our Officer, cou'd not but express in warm Terms his resentment of such proceeding, what we have here advanced and are ready when call'd upon to prove, We think entirely confutes all you have alledged in vindication of so flagrant an Infringement of the sacred Treaty Subsisting between us, and we dont in the least doubt but Your Superiours will shew a proper Resentment & severely punish such an Offence.

Tis something very extraordinary and greatly deviating from that common decency that ought to subsist between Us, that you shou'd without our Leave possess Your selves of our Factory at Metchlepatam, and this You without the least hessitation acknowledge, as well as that you never once wrote to us Concerning it, Your Officier [sic] perhaps concious [sic] of his ill Conduct might afterwards write to our Resident at Ingeram, he might also make such Repairs as he thought convenient, but neither your Officer nor our Resident are Principals, and we might have expected Monsieur Dupleix &c<sup>a</sup>. at Pondicherry having had so long time to consider of it, might have given us an Opportunity to shew them that we were ready on all Occasions to exchange mutual act's of Friendship but Gentlemen while you are with that ease & indifference so peculiar to yourselves,

treating this as a slight trivial Subject, You very unguardedly tell Us, our Factory shall be deliver'd to us till your Superiours Pleasure be known. This sufficiently convinces Us of your Intention and is since confirm'd by a Letter from Mr. Charles Hopkins our Agent, Who Demanding to go and take possession of our Factory, he was refused being made a Prisoner by one Mr. Fryell in your Service there.

In Consequence of a Phirmaund we have for Diu Island and which we are ready to produce when occasion requires, our Agent took possession of the said Island and our Colours were hoisted there, when one Monsieur de Lassell in your Service sent a Body of armed Men, forced him from his Tent put him in fear of his Life, made him strike the Colours and sent him under a Guard Prisoner to Metchlepatam, this we look upon the same as if you had struck those Colours, because You are well acquainted that the Act of a Person made a Prisoner by an Armed body of Men and put in fear of his Life is deem'd the act of those who make use of such unlawful means, what Mons<sup>r</sup> de Lassell has done fearfull of the fatal Consequences, he says was by order of Mons<sup>r</sup> Fryell in your Service at Metchlepatam. This, Gentlemen, is a fresh and most glaring Instance of the little regard You pay to sacred Treaties and of the disrespect You treat our Sovereign with.

What you alledge in regard to the hoisting Your Colours within Pistol Shot of our Batteries being Conformable to the Country Custom is equally weak with the rest of the Arguments You make use of.

We apprehend that neither you nor we are to be guided by Country Customs in Affairs relative to ourselves, You say 'tis the Establish'd Custom in Europe to mark the Frontiers by Posts on the two sides of which are engrav'd the Arms of the two Sovereigns, why did not you take this Method of Marking the Limits of your Chimirical Districts, we should not then have Complain'd but now with the Strongest Reason insist on the Affront.

We think we have fully confuted the whole You have advanced in Support of the many illegal acts you have perpetrated. We therefore do summons and require you Monsieur Dupleix &c<sup>a</sup> Superiour Council of Pondicherry, that you order our Flag to be rehoisted at Cumbaconum, that you put our Agent Mr. Charles Hopkins is [sic] possession of our Factory at Metchlepatam there to carry on such Traffick as he may be from Us Directed without Molestation, according to the purport of our Phirmaund, that you immediately put into his Possession Diu Island replace our Colours, and order your People to depart from the said Island, that you order to be pulled [down?] such Colours as may have been planted near the Limits of our Bounds contrary to the Establish'd Custom of Nations and that you do send Monsieur Foyell [sic] to France by the first Ship to give an Account of his Conduct to your and our Superiours. Which Summons being according to form, We do declare to you, if you think Proper to refuse Complying with it we make you Accountable for all the Unhappy Consequences that Cannot but be the natural result of such Proceeding.

We are with Respect Gentlemen, Your most obedient hum servt [sic] THOMAS SAUNDERS—RICHARD STARKE—CHARLES BODDAM—HENRY POWNEY—GEORGE PIGOT—Foss WESTCOTT—ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Fort St. David  
2<sup>d</sup> April 1751.

### No. 11.

To the Hoñble Mr. Sanders [sic] Gov<sup>r</sup>  
OF THE TOWNS AND FORT OF ST. DAVID  
AND THE GENTLEMEN OF COUNCIL.

Pondicherry the 22<sup>d</sup>. April 1751

Sir & Sirs

We have receiv'd the Letter you did us the Honour to write us the 2<sup>d</sup>. of April O. S. You have put us in such a Case as renders us unable to Answer it

by the Efforts you make to make us pass in the world, for People Capable of all Actions the most unbecoming Gentlemen in Station; we shall Content ourselves for the present with advising you of the Receipt of this Letter which we shall send in Original to Europe, as well as that of Mr. Goodere, to the end that our Superiours and yours may not be in the least doubt, about the Truth of our Translation, nor the cheat of which you are pleas'd to think us Capable, and that they may be Convinced that you are entirely Guided by a bad Disposition: For the Rest, we beg you will beleive, that your little regard for us, will never engage us, to err from that which we owe to you, as Subjects whose Monarch is in Close alliance with ours, and that we shall always be with Respect Sir & Sirs, Your most Obed<sup>t</sup>. humble Serv<sup>ts</sup>. DUPLEIX—DE St. PAUL—DUPLANTVELALAV—BOYELLEAU—BAUSSÉR—GUILLARD—DE BRAIN.

## No. 12.

To M<sup>r</sup>. DUPLEIX GOVERNOR & THE  
GENTLEMEN OF THE SUPERIOUR  
COUNCIL OF PONDICHERY.

Gentlemen

We are sorry still to have Occasion to say any thing more in regard to M<sup>r</sup>. Gooderes Letter, that which we had the honour to receive from you of the 22 Inst<sup>t</sup>. N. S. Charges us with want of Respect; we Cannot but still doubt the Authentness [sic] of Mr. Goodere's Letter and without the least reflection, we affirm that things of this nature have happened of late years which we can prove if required, and desire you will transmit this with the other Original to Your Superiours we wait your Reply to the other part of our Letter that we may regulate our Conduct accordingly.

We are very Respectfully, Gentlemen Your most Obedient humble Servant's  
THOMAS SAUNDERS—RICHARD STARKE—CHARLES BODDAM—HENRY POWNEY—GEORGE  
PIGOT—ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Fort S<sup>t</sup>. David  
25<sup>th</sup> April 1751.

## No. 13.

Pondichery the 15 June 1751.

Gentlemen

Upon the news which was receiv'd at Goa that you had withdrawn your flag from San Thomé I was sent by his excellency the viceroy to hoist the Portuguese Flag in that place. Having here found the Contrary I remain at Pondicherry in expectation of your receiving orders from your Superiours to restore that place to its lawful master (which orders Cannot but reach you soon) and I learn this day with a great Deal of Surprize, that upon public rumours as ill-founded as they are destitute of good sense, you are raising batteries and sending Troops thither to fortify yourselves there; As I have no news that there is a rupture between the two Crowns and as I am even persuaded that such a rupture would not suit with yours I protest against all which you are about that is not Conformable to good harmony in as much as it is always the poor people who are the victimes [sic] of these ill understood piques which is Contrary to humanity and religion.

GOD grant that I may hereafter have more pleasing occasions to write to you and to Assure you how much I am &c<sup>a</sup> Your most Obedient and Humble Servant,  
LE COLONEL BARON DE VIELORIE.

## No. 14.

Pondichery the 17 June 1751.

Sir

The person that Carried my Letter to the Council of Cuddalore is Arrived without any Answer, and as I did not write but in Conformity to the orders that I

had from the Viceroy; I desire you'll be so good as to send me an Answer by the Council; that I may transmit it to Goa. I shall be very glad that every thing terminates for the best; and that the two nations may live well together: as for me in Particular for what regards you Personally I shall be glad to have Occasion to prove that I am sincerely Sir, Your most Obedient and humble Servant,  
LE COLONEL BARON DE VIELORIE.

## No. 15.

To THE BARON DE VILLORIE

Sir

We have receiv'd your Favour of the 16 Instant N.S. in which you are pleas'd to tell us that news was receiv'd at Goa that we had withdrawn our Flag from St. Thome and that you was thereupon dispatched by the Viceroy to hoist the Portuguese flag in that place. But that finding at Pondicherry you had been deceiv'd you now waited till we should be ordered by our superiours to deliver up St. Thomé to its lawful Master which orders you assure us cannot but reach us soon.

Sir we know no other master of Saint Thomé but the King of Great Britain. And as to any cession he may have made of his right we suppose our advices from Europe are as fresh as any you can have receiv'd or that can have been Communicated to you by the Gentlemen amongst whom you reside, And we presume you will soon discover that the news of our having withdrawn our flag (which so far deceiv'd the viceroy of Goa as to occasion you this fruitless journey) is not the only false representation of our affairs which our enemies have endeavoured to spread abroad. Indeed Sir we cannot reconcile your expectation of our being soon ordered to deliver up St. Thomé with the resentment you express at our putting that place in a posture of Defence, since were there really such orders on their way, as we should undoubtedly obey them, you would reap the advantage of our labour and expence, and yet upon this pretext only, you Accuse us of being influenced by popular rumours as void of foundation as they are of good sense &c<sup>a</sup>. Surely Sir it must have been a disappointment which we Cannot account for that Could induce a Gentlemen [*sic*] to whom we have never given any Cause of private resentment to indulge in so passionate a stile.

You are pleased to protest against whatever we are transacting that is contrary to the good harmony Subsisting between the two Crowns of Britain and Portugal. But we cannot comprehend that our works at St. Thomé can in the least affect that harmony or can be in any wise offensive to any Portuguese Subject; However, this you take for granted and tell us that Contrary to humanity and religion the poor people are always the victims of these mistaken prejudices, It is true Sir you are now in a province where almost every village exhibits a most affecting picture of the ravages Committed amongst the meaner part of mankind by the interested views and ambition of those above them. But as we are conscious that no part of these destructive measures can be imputed to us we conceive your reflection has in view another object; And therefore we cannot but declare that if any of those who live under the protection of the Crown of great Britain should be so far deluded from their Duty as to engage in designs against the peace and Security of our Settlement, they indeed have every thing to fear from our resentment since we shall never esteem the punishing of mutinous Subjects to be forbidden either by the Laws of Humanity or religion.

We are Sir Your most obed<sup>t</sup> humble Servant's, Thos<sup>s</sup>. SAUNDERS—RICHARD STARKE—CHARLES BODDAM—HENRY POWNEY—GEORGE PIGOT—ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Fort St David.  
9<sup>th</sup> of June 1751.

## No. 16.

Pondichery the 24 June 1751

Gentlemen

I am of an Age to know what I do without its being Suggested to me as You would make me beleive. I have my orders and I endeavour to execute them Conformable to what I see and what is related to me, I do not know for what reason you tell me that I make use of passionate expressions. I have read over my Letter and find nothing in it that is not perfectly agreeable to the Commission I am charg'd with, And you will permit me to Omit Answering those Articles of your Letter which are out of their place with regard to me and foreign to the Affair in hand.

You tell me you know no other than the King of Great Britain for the Sovereign of San Thomé And the foundation of this property Consists in this, that you of your own private Authority have thought proper to take down the flag of the King my master and to put up your's in its place. The law of the Strongest is hitherto the only right of this unjust Property And there is no doubt but your Sovereign of whose flag you make so improper an use will be the first to Condemn your new method of increasing his Dominion by proceedings altogether opposite to the law of nations.

You add that the fortifications which you are making at St Thomé Cannot occasion any alterations in the present good harmony between the two Crowns. You should have told me at the same time in what you make that harmony to Consist and upon what foot you Consider it for it will be Difficult for you to prove that your unjust possession of St Thomé, the taking down the flag of the King my master in order to put up your's in its place, the endeavouring to *deface the place* and to Constrain as much as possible the exercise of religion, are methods to preserve that good harmony which Cannot Subsist but in submitting blindly to the unjust proceedings You have till now practised. If this is the method by which you Suppose this harmony is to be Supported it will without doubt appear new to all the Powers of Europe. As to the rest it were to be wish'd you had always practised that Candour of which you triumph at the End of your Letter. I should then only have had occasion to have praised you and to have assured you How much I am Gentlemen Your most Obed<sup>t</sup>. & humble Serv<sup>t</sup>. LE COLONEL BARON DE VIELERIE.

## No. 17.

TO M<sup>R</sup>. DUPLEX GOVERNOUR & THE  
GENTLEMEN OF THE SUPERIOUR  
COUNCIL OF PONDICHERRY.

Gentlemen

It's with Concern that we find Ourselves still under the necessity of taxing You Gentlemen with daily Breaches of that Solemn Treaty subsisting between your Sovereign and the King of Great Britain in whose name we are to demand a Restitution of the Several parts of the Tritchinopoly Districts You have lately in Conjunction with the Troops of Chenda Saib Possess'd your selves of. That fort together with it's dependencies having been some time past mortgaged to us by Nabob Annaverdee Cawn Bahauder who now resides there under the protection of the English Flag. We therefore Gentlemen Protest against you for the Hostilities You have already or may hereafter Commit in the said Country of Tritchenopoly making you Answerable for all the unhappy Consequences that must necessarily happen from such unwarantable proceedings.

We have the Honour to be Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Humble Servants,  
THOMAS SAUNDERS—RICHARD STARKE—CHARLES BODDAM—HENRY POWNEY—  
GEORGE PIGOT—ALEXANDER WYNCH.

Fort St. David  
4<sup>th</sup>. Aug<sup>st</sup>. 1751.

## No. 18.

Pondicherry the 22<sup>d</sup>. August 1751.

M<sup>r</sup>. SAUNDERS GOVR. OF FORT ST. DAVID  
& IT'S DEPENDENCIES & THE GENTLEMEN OF COUNCIL.

Sir & Sirs

Although We had come to a Resolution not to answer any more of the Letters you might do us the Honour to write us, since that of the 2<sup>d</sup>. April O. S. in which you were pleas'd to charge us with the Crime of Forgery, and which you afterwards thought proper further to aggravate by that of the 25<sup>th</sup> April, untill you should be pleas'd to recant. We however think we should not pass over in Silence What you are pleas'd to write us in your Letter of the 4<sup>th</sup>. Instant O.S.

If what you advance in this Last is the only Cloak with which you would Cover the real Motives which have engag'd you for a long time to keep up the Troubles in these Provinces, You did not perceive the thinness of it; for the endeavouring to colour this Conduct by any pretences whatever is imposing upon your Superiours; You at the same time make appear the little Solidity of them, for while you intend to do Service to Mahomet Ali Cawn, otherwise Aneverdy Cawn, & to give a sort of a Support to your Hostilities, you on the Contrary declare him a Traitor to his Head master, & a Rebel to his lawful Sovereign, and yourselves Favourers of his Rebellion. It is out of Doubt, that though he were lawfull Governour of the Kingdom of Trichenopoly (which he is not) He could not, without manifest Treason & open Rebellion enter into such Engagements with you or any body else for a Kingdom of so much Importance.

You would not also persuade the whole World that the English nation is capable of Supporting a Subject in Rebellion against his lawfull Sovereign from whom this very nation has receiv'd immense Priviledges, It would not indeed be a Proof of their Gratitude.

M<sup>r</sup>. Dupliex, who is honour'd by the same Sovereign with the general Government of the Provinces [sic] on this side the Kistnah as far as Cape Comorin, will transmit to this Monarch at Delhy your Letter, by which he will be informed of your Designs upon a Part of his Kingdom. He will send him also some Pieces & Letters in Persians which will make appear that the Rebellion of Mahomed Ally Cawn is not yet push'd to the Point you would insinuate.

For the Rest, We are not ignorant that you are always ready to tell us that you have such Engagements with any of the neighbouring Princes that we happen to have a Dispute with. These Engagements are only momentary & do not Subsist after we have terminated our Differences, & what is more singular, is that these very Princes are themselves the first to deny them & to make appear on the Contrary that they are extremely tir'd of the Burthen of these pretended Engagements.

Endeavour, Gentlemen, to support your Protests on more solid Foundations, those that you now present destroy themselves, & make you perceive what it would be of great Importance to you to conceal, & of which we can prove the Reality, Writings in hand.

This shall be, if you please the last that you receive from us on these Matters We were oblig'd to hold a Considerable Contest with Ourselves to answer your's; Dishonour'd as we are by your Writings we absolutely cannot keep up any Correspondence with you till we receive from you, Gentlemen, a Recantation as Publick as the Injury. We are with Respect Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient Humble Servants DUPLEX—DE ST. PAUL—POURQUENOUS [sic]—BAUSSET—BARTHELEMY—DE BRAIN.

No. 19.

To M<sup>Rs</sup>. DUPLEX GOVERNOUR  
AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE  
SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF PONDICHERY.

Gentlemen

Agreeable to what we had the Honour to write you the 18<sup>o</sup> Ja<sup>ry</sup> & 4 Febr<sup>y</sup> last We have made strict enquiry in regard to the Letter said to be wrote by M<sup>r</sup>. Robert Goodere, that Gentlemen [sic] affirms he never wrote such a Letter and that if any such be in your hands, It is an imposition and forged, We repeat our Protest against you for the several hostile acts [we] charged you with in our Letters of the 22<sup>d</sup>. Febr<sup>y</sup> 6<sup>th</sup>. March 2<sup>d</sup>. April & 4<sup>th</sup> August which you have been pleas'd to answer with trifling evasions and charge you with the ill Consequences that may from thence ensue.

We are very Respectfully, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient humble Servants,  
THOMAS SAUNDERS &c<sup>a</sup>. & COUNCIL.

Fort St. David  
the 3<sup>d</sup>. October 1751.

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26 AUG 1970

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